Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 (ISO) W

R 071503Z APR 77 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6487 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW SECDEF WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: FOURTH MEETING, ROUND TWO, US/USSR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CW, APRIL 6, 1977

- 1. SUMMARY: FOURTH MEETING, ROUND TWO OF US/USSR BILATERAL CW TALKS WAS HELD AFTERNOON, APRIL 6. USDEL ANSWERED QUESTIONS POSED BY USSR DEL AT PREVIOUS MEETING: US REP MADE SUMMARY STATEMENT. SOVIET REP ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF USDEL POSITION ON TOXINS AND MADE BRIEF STATEMENTS RESPONDING TO USDEL APRIL PRESENTATIONS ON FORM OF JOINT INITIATIVE AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE VISITS. END SUMMARY
- 2. THE FOURTH MEETING, ROUND TWO OF US/USSR CONSULTATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) CONVENED AFTERNOON, APRIL 6, AT US MISSION. MEMBER US DEL (MIKULAK) PROVIDED RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS POSED BY USSR DEL AT PREVIOUS SESSION. HE SAID THAT EXCHANGE OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION WOULD NOT BE A DIRECT PART OF A VERIFICATION SYSTEM, BUT RATHER A "SUPPLEMENTARY MEASURE;" CONFIDENCE-BUILDING STEPS TO BE TAKEN ON ISGNATURE SHOULD BE WORKED OUT DURING TREATY CONFIDENTIAL.

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NEGOTIATIONS BUT WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED ON VOLUNTARY BASIS. OTHER CBM'S WOULD BE SPECIFIED IN THE CONVENTION AND WOULD BECOME OBLIGATORY FOR A STATE AS SOON AS IT BECAME A PARTY TO THE CONVENTION; USG HAS NOT YET TAKEN DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT INCAPACITATING AGENTS SHOULD BE PROHIBITED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, BUT USDEL FEELS DOING SO WOULD BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH SPIRIT OF JULY 1974

SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE; AND THAT USDEL DOES NOT FEEL IT IS NECESSARY TO INCLUDE DETAILED PROCEDURES FOR TOXICITY DETERMINATION AMONG THE ELEMENTS OF A JOINT INITIATIVE AND THAT DISCUSSION OF EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS WOULD BE PREMATURE AT PRESENT.

3. USSR REP (LIKHATCHEV) ASKED IF USG HAD CHANGED POSITION, TAKEN DURING CCD DISCUSSION OF SOVIET PROPOSAL ON MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS. ON MAINTAINING INTEGRITY OF EXISTING TREATIES AND WAS NOW SAYING THAT TOXINS, WHILE COVERED UNDER BW CONVENTION, MUST ALSO BE PROHIBITED BY THE CW CONVENTION. WOULDN'T THIS DOUBLE COVERAGE OF TOXINS, BY BOTH BW AND CW CONVENTIONS, JEOPARDIZE THE BW CONVENTION? MEMBER USDEL REPLIED THAT USG POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED, NOR WAS POSITION ON TOXINS IN ANY WAY INCONSISTENT WITH PAST STATEMENTS. HE STRESSED THAT US WAS NOT ASSERTING THAT BW CONVENTION TREATMENT OF TOXINS WAS INADEQUATE AND EXPLAINED THAT TOXINS, AS CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, WOULD BE AUTOMATICALLY COVERED BY CW CONVENTION. SOVIET REP INSISTED ON DRAGGING OUT DISCUSSION ON TOXIN ISSUE. US REP (MEYERS) ENDED DISCUSSION BY SAYING THAT HE THOUGHT USDEL EXPLANATION HAD BEEN LOGICAL AND ADEQUATE. USSR STATEMENTS WOULD BE NOTED AND US SIDE MIGHT WISH TO RETURN TO SUBJECT AT LATER TIME. (COMMENT: SOVIET REP IS CLEARLY STILL SMARTING FROM DRUBBING RECEIVED LAST SUMMER IN MDW EXERCISE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT SOVIET SIDE DISAGREES WITH SUBSTANCE OF VIEWS OF US SIDE ON TOXIN ISSUE.) USSR REP ALSO ASKED USDEL RESPONSES TO TWO PAPERS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED BY USSR DEL COULD BE MADE APRIL 6 OR 7. US REP SAID US DEL WOULD CONFIDENTIAL.

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ADDRESS THEM LATER.

4. USSR REP THEN MADE BRIEF STATEMENT GIVING "PRE-LIMINARY" RESPONSE TO US DEL APRIL 5 PRESENTATION ON FORM OF JOING INITIATIVE. STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF "SPEEDILY IMPLEMENTING THE US/USSR 1974 UNDERSTANDING," HE PUSHED WORKING OUT DRAFT JOINT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, AFTER "AGREEING ON THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT." USSR REP SAID HE FELT SOVIET 1974 DRAFT "MIGHT BE THE BASIS" FOR A JOINT US/USSR DRAFT. USSR DEL VIEW IS THAT JOINT INITIATIVE SHOULD TAKE FORM OF JOINT DRAFT TREATY; USSR REP SAID US DEL VIEWS ON "AGREED PRINCIPLES" WOULD BE PASSED TO MOSCOW. USSR REP SAID "AGREED PRINCIPLES" OR "KEY ELEMENTS" WOULD LAY PRACTICAL BASIS FOR TREATY AND SHOULD BE WORDED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY CAN BE INCORPORATED, WORD-FOR-WORD, IN TREATY. HE SAID, "... NOT USING THEM WOULD MEAN WE HAD DONE DOUBLE WORK AND WASTED TIME."

5. ADDRESSING USDEL PRESENTATION ON TECHNICAL EXCHANGE VISITS, USSR REP SAID HE DID NOT FEEL DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE WAS RELATED TO PRESENT CONSULTATIONS AND "MIGHT BE" SOMETHING TO TAKE UP "MUCH LATER" AFTER "CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS" HAS BEEN MADE ON JOINT INITIATIVE. HE SAID "...NOW OUR EFFORTS SHOULD BE AIMED AT IMPLEMENTING OUR OBLIGATIONS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE."

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- 6. US REP MADE POSITIVE CLOSING STATEMENT SAYING THAT WHILE DIFFERENCES STILL EXIST, PARTICULARLY ON VERIFICATION ISSUE, BOTH SIDES HAD BEEN ABLE "TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER'S POSITIONS." US REP STATED THAT HE BELIEVED POSITIONS OF TWO SIDES WERE NOT FUNDAMENTALLY INCONSISTENT ON SCOPE OF AGENTS TO BE COVERED AND THOUGHT THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES MIGHT BE USEFUL. ON VERIFICATION HE STATED THAT USG DID NOT BELIEVE NON-INTRUSIVE MEANS COULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE AND THAT ONE-SITE INSPECTION WOULD BE NEEDED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS. HE ALSO RE-EMPHASIZED US DEL PREFERENCE FOR JOINT INITIATIVE TAKING FORM OF AGREED PRINCIPLES.
- 7. USSR REP SAID THAT COMMUNIQUE STILL HAD TO BE DISCUSSED AND USSR DEL HAD TO MAKE SUMMARY STATEMENT; SUGGESTED MEETING AGAIN AFTERNOON, APRIL 7. US REP AGREED.
- 8. FINAL MEETING, ROUND TWO OF US/USSR CONSULTATIONS ON CW WILL BE 2:00 PM, APRIL 7 AT SOVIET MISSION.

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